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**LOOKING FOR THE PERFECT GIFT?
HOW ABOUT A HOME EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT?**

Indianapolis – The Indiana Department of Homeland Security is encouraging Hoosiers to consider giving home Emergency Supply Kits as gifts to their friends and relatives during this holiday season.

“We know that the ability of individuals and families to be self-sustaining for at least three days would be vital during the response to a large scale disaster or emergency,” said Indiana Department of Homeland Security Executive Director Eric Dietz. “Emergency Supply Kits in households are an important part of this preparedness. If you know of a family or individual that does not already have an emergency supply kit, this would be a great gift idea.”

An Emergency Supply Kit is a collection of basic supplies that are stored together in case of an emergency. Recommended items to include in a basic Emergency Supply Kit include:

- Water: One gallon per person per day for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation.
- Food: At least a three-day supply of non-perishable food items. If items are canned, a can opener will also be needed.
- Battery powered radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert and extra batteries for both.
- Flashlight and extra batteries.
- First aid kit.
- Whistle to signal for help.
- Dust mask to help filter contaminated air, and plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place.
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation.
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities.
- Local maps.

Other items such as medicines, extra clothing and pet care items might also be included in a kit. The items should be stored together in a container. Even if you cannot assemble all of the items as part of your gift, you can purchase the container and some of the items to at least help get the kit started. You can then include a printout of other items that can be included in the kit. This information, including a printable checklist, can be found on the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's official preparedness Web site, at www.ready.gov.

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